

REMARKS

Prior to examination, Applicants respectfully request entry of this Amendment in which the specification has been amended in the same manner as in the parent application and to identify the parent application.

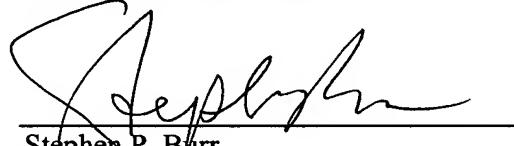
The abstract has been amended to contain 150 words or less.

Filed herewith is an Information Disclosure Statement listing all references cited during prosecution of the parent application.

If the Examiner believes that contact with applicants' attorney would be advantageous toward the disposition of this case, he is herein requested to call applicants' attorney at the phone number noted below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1446.

Respectfully submitted,



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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of: Masahiko NAMERIKAWA, Kazuyoshi SHIBATA and
Masaki IWAMOTO

Filed: Concurrently Herewith

For: PIEZOELECTRIC/ELECTROSTRICTIVE ELEMENT AND
PIEZOELECTRIC/ELECTROSTRICTIVE DEVICE AND PRODUCTION
METHOD THEREOF

Mail Stop Patent Application
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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Elizabeth A. VanAntwerp
Elizabeth A. VanAntwerp

PRELIMINARY REMARKS/PROVISIONAL ELECTION

Sir:

During prosecution of parent application Serial No. 09/918,274, the PTO required restriction between Group I, claims 1-20, and Group II, claims 21-26. If the PTO determines that the same restriction requirement is appropriate in the present application, applicants hereby provisionally elect Group II, method claims 21-26.

Upon reconsideration of the rejections asserted against product claims 1-20 in the parent application, applicants have determined that the amendments that were made in the parent application unduly restrict the claim coverage for the present invention. Applicants intend to file a divisional application at a later date to pursue original claims 1-20.

Should the appropriate official at the U.S. PTO have any questions concerning this paper, he/she is requested to telephone applicants' representative.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1446.

Respectfully submitted,

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July 31, 2003

Date

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